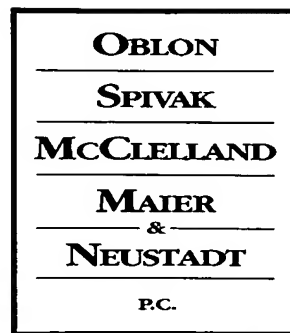


DOCKET NO.: 250374US0

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTENTION: MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/796,982
Applicants: Takashi KATO et al
Filing Date: March 11, 2004
For: GELLING AGENT AND PRODUCTION METHOD
THEREOF

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

PTO COVER LETTER; NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION (RETURN COPY); REPLY TO SECOND NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION; PHOTOCOPY OF CERTIFICATION OF TRANSLATION (1 PG.) AND PHOTOCOPY OF CERTIFIED ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF SPECIFICATION (26. PP.)

Our check in the amount of -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon

Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 45,518

Customer Number

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(703) 413-3000 (phone)
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DOCKET NO.: 250374US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Takashi KATO et al

SERIAL NO.: 10/796,982

FILED: MARCH 11, 2004

FOR: GELLING AGENT AND
PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF

REPLY TO SECOND
NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313
SIR:

ATTENTION: MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

In response to the second Notice to File Missing Parts of NonProvisional Application dated August 25, 2004, Applicants note that the certified English translation of the specification filed on July 22, 2004, which was in response to the first Notice to File Missing Parts of NonProvisional Application dated June 1, 2004, contains a set of five (5) claims (Claims 1-5), see pages 24-25, and an Abstract of the technical disclosure commencing on a separate page, see page 26. For reference, please refer to the attached photocopy of the aforementioned certified English language translation of the specification.

Examination and allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D.
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(OSMMN 06/04)



CERTIFICATION

I, Masahiko OHI, of Eishin Bldg., 6-1, Kanda
Ogawa-machi 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0052, Japan,
hereby certify that I am the translator of the application
for patent filed in United States of America on the 11th day
of March, 2004 with Serial No. 10/796982, and certify that
the following is a true and correct translation to the best
of my knowledge and belief.


Masahiko OHI

Dated the 9th day of July, 2004

JPW



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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| APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING OR 371 (c) DATE | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 10/796,982 | 03/11/2004 | Takashi Kato | 250374US0 |

22850
 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
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 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

CONFIRMATION NO. 4620

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000013635148

Date Mailed: 08/25/2004

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted***Items Required To Avoid Abandonment:**

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- Because your specification was filed in a language other than English, the Office was unable to determine the number of claims submitted. Additional claim fees may be due once the number of claims can be determined.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- An abstract of the technical disclosure not exceeding 150 words in length and commencing on a separate sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 1.72(b) is required. An abstract was not provided for this application.

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*


Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE